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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

ANTONIO PONTICIELLO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: TESKIN, F.

SERIAL NO: 10/551,524 :

FILED: AUGUST 15, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1796

FOR: EXPANDABLE VINYLAROMATIC : POLYMERS AND PROCESS FOR THEIR

PREPARATION

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated December 31, 2008, please reconsider the application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

The Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.